

Amendments to the Abstract:

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 17 line 1, as follows:

--ABSTRACT--

Please amend the paragraph of the English translation document at page 17 line 1, after the newly added ABSTRACT, as follows:

The invention relates to a method for operating a steam power plant comprising a steam generator and a combustion chamber associated therewith, wherein pre-warmed combustion air is guided therein in addition to a fossil fuel. According to the invention, said plant can be operated with a particularly high efficiency ratio in various operating conditions. As a result, the combustion air is at least partially released after the pre-warming thereof and before the introduction thereof into the combustion chamber. A steam power plant which is particularly suitable for carrying out said method comprises, in addition to a pre-air warmer, an air turbine which is mounted downstream from said pre-air warmer in a fresh air pipe.